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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Toshiaki KAKUTANI

Application No. 10/551,199

U.S. Filing Date: October 6, 2006

For: IMAGE OUTPUT CONTROL SYSTEM,
IMAGE OUTPUT DEVICE, AND
IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE

)
) Group Art Unit: 2624
)
) Examiner: Not Assigned
)
) Atty. Docket No. MIPFP178
)
) Date: May 22, 2007
)
) Confirmation No. 4060
)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 22, 2007.

Signed:

Diane Schwanbeck

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of the non-U.S. references of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicant submits these references in compliance with his duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to consider these references and to acknowledge such consideration by initialing the attached PTO Form 1449 at the appropriate locations.

The information listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 was cited in a communication in a counterpart European application. For the Examiner's use and information, a copy of the pertinent portion of the Supplementary European Search Report (ESR) in the corresponding European application is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fees are due in connection with the filing of this IDS. In the event fees are due to effect consideration of the listed references, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP178).

Respectfully submitted,
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Application Number

10/551,199

Filing Date:

October 6, 2006

First Named Inventor:

Toshiaki KAKUTANI

Art Unit:

2624

Examiner Name:

Attorney Docket Number:

MIPFP178

**Information Disclosure
Statement By Applicant**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A	4,266,249	5/1981	Chai et al.	
	B	4,837,846	6/1989	Oyabu et al.	
	C	5,235,432	8/1993	Creedon et al.	
	D	5,239,597	8/1993	Chung et al.	
	E	5,359,430	10/1994	Zhang	
	F				
	G				
	H				
	I				
	J				
	K				

Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document No.	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
	L	EP 0 794 655	9/1997	Rust et al.		YES NO
	M					x
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					

Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	R	Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 02-072767 Pub. Date: 3/13/1990, Patent Abstracts of Japan
	S	R. A. Vander Kam and R. M. Gray, "Lossy Compression of Clustered-Dot Halftones," <i>Proceedings of the Int'l Conf. on Image Processing</i> , Vol. 3 (Nov. 1994), pp. 836-840.
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	W	

Examiner Signature**Date Considered**

Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.